

Applic. No. 10/699,180
Amdt. dated April 30, 2005
Reply to Office action of March 7, 2005

Remarks/Arguments:

Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Claims 1-2, 5-9, and 12-20 remain in the application. Claims 1, 2, 5, 19, and 20 have been amended. Claim 3 has been previously cancelled. Claims 4, 10, and 11 are being cancelled herewith.

In item 3 on page 2 of the Office action, claims 1, 19, and 20 have been rejected as being fully anticipated by Lautenklos et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication 2001/0022426 A1) (hereinafter "Lautenklos") under 35 U.S.C. § 102.

It is appreciatively noted from item 7 on page 3 of the Office action that claims 4, 5, 10, and 11 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of allowable claim 4, therefore claim 1 is allowable.

Claim 19 has been amended to include the subject matter of allowable claim 10. Therefore, claim 19 is allowable as well.

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Claim 20 has been amended to include the subject matter of allowable claim 11. Therefore, claim 20 is allowable as well.

In item 6 on page 3 of the Office action, claim 2 has been rejected as being obvious over Lautenklos (U.S. Patent Application Publication 2001/0022426 A1) in view of Kerpe et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2001/0026042) under 35 U.S.C. § 103. Since claim 1 is allowable, dependent claim 2 is allowable as well.

Since only allowable claims remain, the early issuance of a Notice of Allowance is solicited herewith.

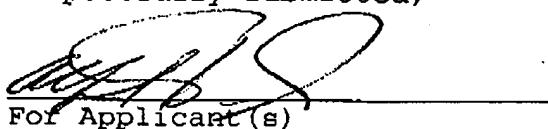
If an extension of time for this paper is required, petition for extension is herewith made.

In the event the Examiner should still find any of the claims to be unpatentable, counsel respectfully requests a telephone call so that, if possible, patentable language can be worked out.

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Please charge any other fees which might be due with respect to Sections 1.16 and 1.17 to the Deposit Account of Lerner & Greenberg P.A., No. 12-1099.

Respectfully submitted,



For Applicant(s)

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April 30, 2005

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